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# THE Publishers' Weekly

*The American Book TRADE JOURNAL*

VOL. CX

NEW YORK, AUGUST 28, 1926

No. 9

*What Made Its Instant Success?*

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By PERCIVAL CHRISTOPHER WREN

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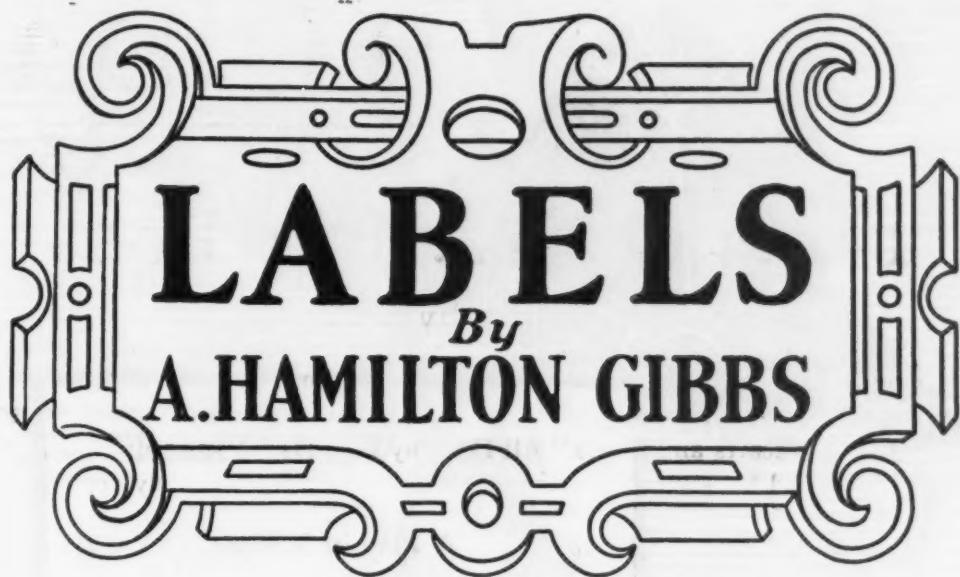
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**END OF ACT I**

(Act II: In November and December magazines and newspapers.)

Act III: In the Bookseller's pocket.)

(See next page for cast of characters)

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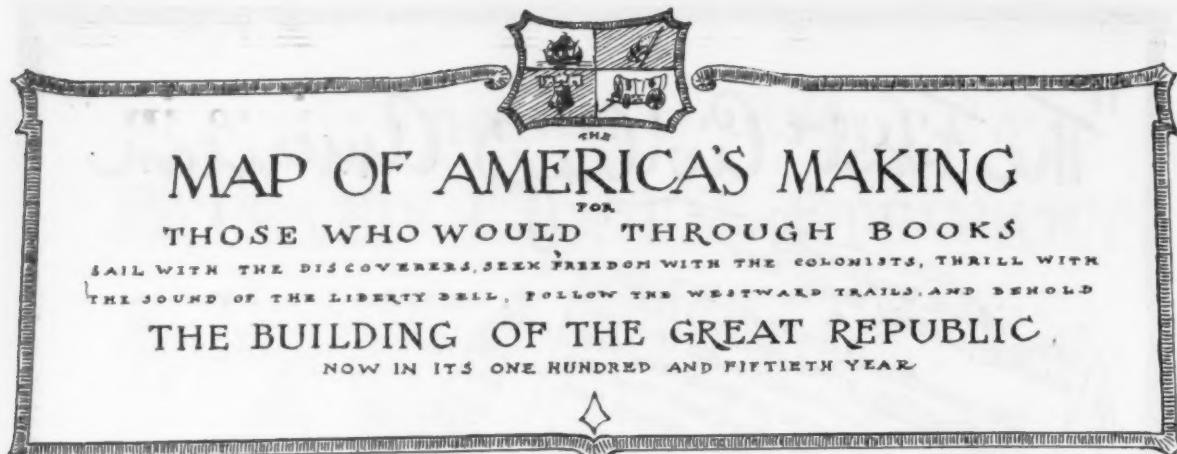
The authors of Emerson's famous mouse-trap saying are coming to New York. They have been smoking in

Harry  
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## *Look for the winning article in September RETAIL BOOKSELLER*

**FIRST PRIZE IN OUR BOOKSHOP HISTORY  
CONTEST WON by MRS. DOROTHY M. SUFFERN**

Miss Marion Humble, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Book Publishers; Ellis W. Meyers, Executive Secretary of the American Booksellers' Association and the Editor of **THE RETAIL BOOKSELLER**, served as judges.

The contest recently announced by us for the most valuable article on the history of a successful bookshop has come to a close with the award of first prize to Mrs. Dorothy M. Suffern, formerly of the Plainfield Bookshop, Plainfield, N. J., and of two second prizes to Mrs. Martha B. Cole of King Cole's Bookshop, Galesburg, Ill., and Miss Katharine F. Comstock of The Book Shop, Harrisburg, Pa.

The contest aroused considerable interest among booksellers and most adequately served its original purpose—that of bringing to light valuable bookshop experience. The articles which were submitted were all interesting. As a matter of fact the judges had an almost insoluble problem on their hands in awarding second prize. The articles submitted by Mrs. Cole and Miss Comstock both merited the second award and the only thing to do was to give both of them the prize. This was done.

We want to thank all the participants for the interest they have shown and we believe their efforts will prove fruitful in better bookshop practice. Because of the broad interest of the contest, in addition to the valuable contents of the prize-winning article, we are publishing Mrs. Suffern's "History" in **THE RETAIL BOOKSELLER** for September. This is our Fall Announcement Number, listing the new books of all regular publishers in America. They are alphabetized under two heads, classified, with dates of publication given in most cases. Other information and many timely articles make this issue a valuable one for the enterprising bookseller.

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# The PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY

THE AMERICAN BOOK TRADE JOURNAL

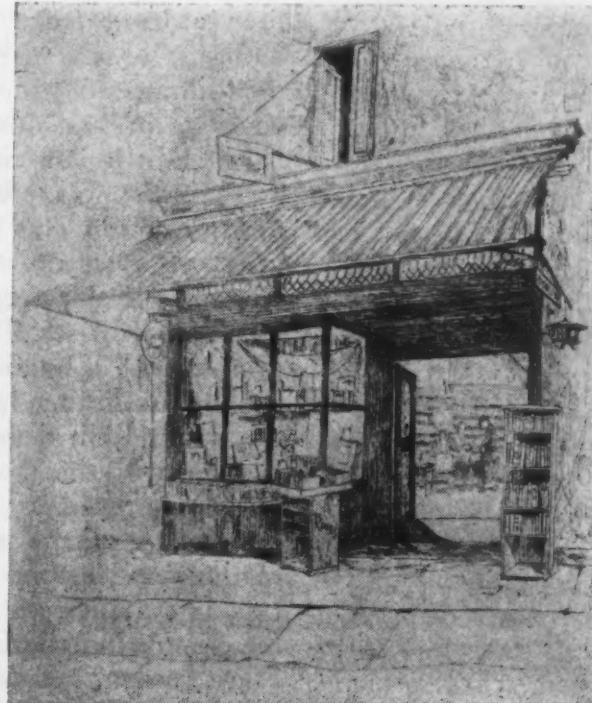
NEW YORK, AUGUST 28, 1926

## San Francisco Bookstores

*A Survey of Some Shops and Personalities That Have Helped Maintain the City's Reputation as a "Good Book Town"*

Oscar Lewis

ALMOST since the days of the gold rush, San Francisco has been known as a good book town. During the '50's when every pound of merchandise from the States came 18,000 miles around the Horn, or was freighted across the Isthmus, the holds of arriving clipper ships usually contained a number of bales of reading matter, and at least two stores, The Noisy Carrier's Book and Stationery Co., at 64 Long Wharf, and Allen and Spier's Union Book Store, at 148 Clay Street, were in existence prior to 1855. The isolation of the new city created a natural desire for reading, and the pioneer shops seem to have been widely patronized. At any rate, competitors entered the field in such numbers that the city directory of 1859 listed no less than thirty booksellers, of whom ten were designated as importers. Among the best known shops of the period were those of J. J. Lacount,



*The charm of George Hargens' Old and Rare Bookshop is caught in this etching*

"Law, Medical, Miscellaneous, and School Books" Larrabee and Brazer, "Books and Cutlery," and George H. Bell, who advertised that "Orders are received for any Book required from the States, and are obtained in the shortest possible time"—which in those days meant anywhere from four to six months.

The Civil War greatly stimulated the business of the booksellers, and the completion of the Union Pacific Railroad in 1868 cut to less than a quarter the time required to secure

books from Eastern publishers. In the roaring '70's, when the Nevada silver mines were pouring new floods of wealth into the city, and when Bret Harte and his associates on the *Overland Monthly* had begun to give California a literature of its own, the booktrade became stabilized and several of the shops then founded, among them that of the historian, H. H. Bancroft, and of I. N.



*An unconventional portrait of A. M. Robertson, dean of San Francisco booksellers*

Choynski, father of the noted pugilist Joe Choynski, continued in existence for a long time.

In the '80s and '90s, the shop of William Doxey in the Palace Hotel building was very widely known and patronized and was for years the gathering place of local and visiting literary celebrities. Among his chief competitors were Henry Payot, James T. White, and Coleman and Gruenger.

Altho two of the present bookshops, those of A. M. Robertson and of Paul Elder, were in existence prior to 1906, the present generation of booksellers may be said to date from the time of the earthquake and fire. With every bookstore in the city completely destroyed, the book-dealers, like most other merchants, found the slate wiped clean; they were obliged to build again from the beginning. That they shouldered the task willingly and carried it thru with energy and skill is clearly evident from the bookshops of to-day, which in their diversified stocks and attractive settings are far in advance of those of earlier days.

The fire was instrumental in bringing about in San Francisco a result which in most other cities did not come until much later; that is, the bookshops on reopening downtown became grouped within a com-

paratively restricted area. The San Francisco retail book market centers about Post Street and the vicinity of Union Square. Here, with an area of two or three blocks are located all but one or two of the leading shops of the city.

On Stockton Street, facing Union Square, is the well-known shop of A. M. Robertson, dean of the San Francisco booksellers. Mr. Robertson is one of the veteran bookmen of the country, having been actively engaged in the retail trade for 56 years. He began in 1870, a boy of 15, in the long-vanished shop of C. Beach, and in 1887 became the owner of his own establishment. It is one of Mr. Robertson's distinctions that his was the first shop to reopen after the fire. Two weeks after he had been burned out downtown he was conducting his business in the basement of a residence in the unburned area, his stock consisting of such books as had been ordered from the east prior to the outbreak of the fire. The citizens, their own libraries destroyed, were eager to own books again, and during the reconstruction days the little shop on Ellis Street was well patronized. Mr. Robertson moved back downtown to his present commodious quarters in 1909. He carries a well-selected general stock and in addition has specialized for some years in a series of reproductions in miniature of the work of leading California landscape artists. Since 1896 Mr. Robertson has conducted in connection with his bookshop a considerable publishing business, and his list includes the work of many of the foremost writers of the West, among them Charles Warren Stoddard, Ambrose Bierce, Joaquin Miller, Frank Norris, George Sterling, David Starr Jordan, and Vernon Kellogg.

Across Union Square, at 358 Post Street, is the shop of J. J. Newbegin, another well-known name in the history of San Francisco bookdealers. In 1920 Mr. Newbegin succeeded his father, who for many years has conducted a large subscription book business. Thru the energy of the present proprietor, who since 1900 had been associated in his father's business, Newbegin's has won an enviable place among bookstores of the city. The shop is a spacious and attractive one carrying a comprehensive general stock. In addition

it specializes in well-printed standard sets and has a complete and well-selected rare book department, with particular emphasis on Californiana and first and rare editions of modern writers.

Also on Post Street, half a block from Union Square, the *Sign of the Open Book* guides the way to John Howell's new shop, one of the unique bookstores of the West. Over the attractive alcoves and balconies of this unusual shop hovers an atmosphere of subdued calm which forms a thoroly appropriate setting for its fine stock of rare books and documents relating to the West. In addition to the many items of California always to be found on the shelves, the shop specializes in fine editions of the classics and of Elizabethan and Victorian literature. Few modern books are carried, Mr. Howell centering his attention on his chosen field of fine and rare editions, and of old documents, maps, and prints, chiefly relating to Western subjects. Like a number of other San Francisco booksellers, Mr. Howell makes occasional ventures into the publishing field. A list of volumes on Western subjects, on Lincoln, and on the Bacon-Shakespeare controversy (a hobby of Mr. Howell's) have appeared bearing his imprint as publisher.

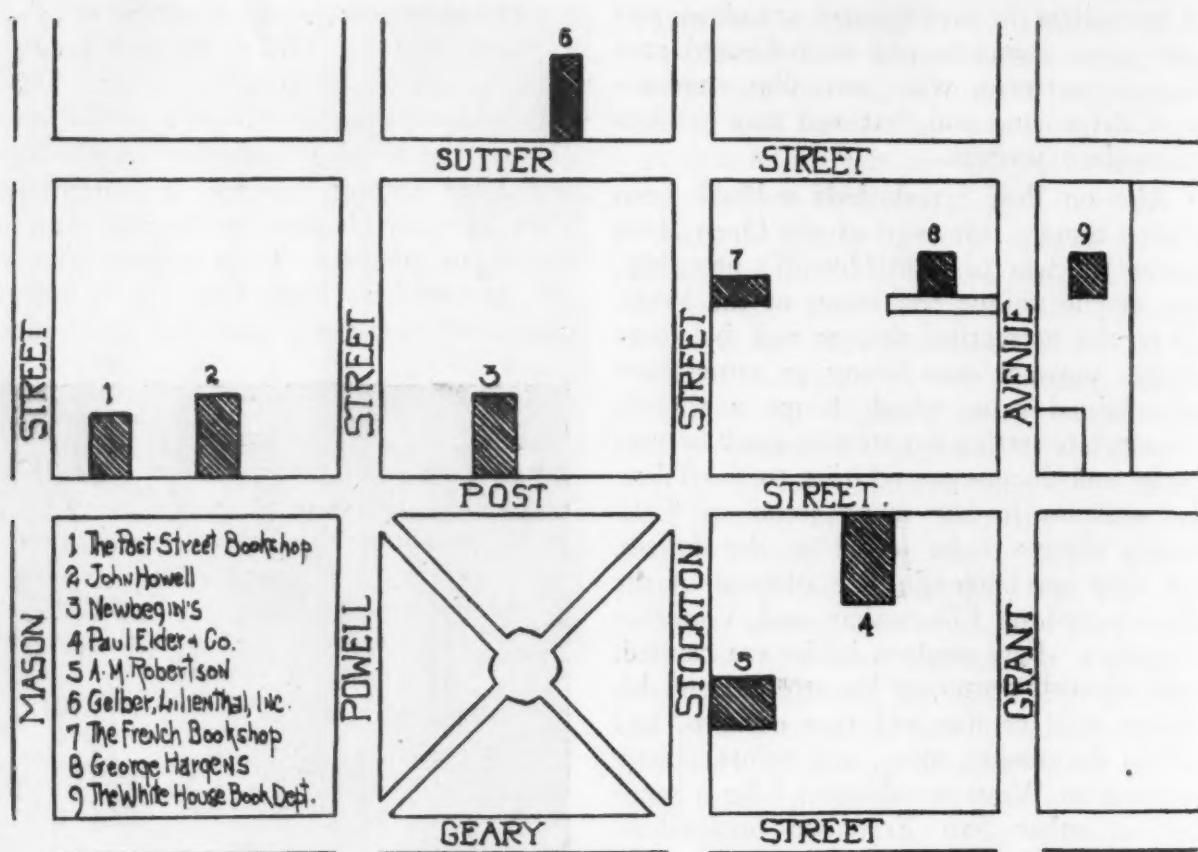
A few doors to the west are the fine new quarters of The Post Street Bookshop, a store which has a number of out-of-the-ordinary features. Organized in 1922 as The Children's Bookshop, the venture was backed by a number of San Franciscoans for the purpose of providing a store at which only selected and approved lists of children's books were offered for sale. This feature has been carefully preserved, and the attractive children's rooms of the present shop are unusually complete in good editions of children's classics as well as in modern juveniles of the better class. The same policy of selective supervision is exercised in the general book department, except that here the basis of selection is purely that of literary worth. Its purpose is to eliminate the ephemeral and trivial among the new publications and to concentrate on books of such solid merit as appeal to a public of discriminating readers. The shop is under the capable management of Miss Jean C. Moore and Mrs. Grace S. Powell.

On the south side of Post Street, half a block east of Union Square is Paul Elder's well-known shop. Mr. Elder began his training in the store of William Doxey, the leading bookseller of the '90s, and later entered business in partnership with Morgan Shepard, under the name of Elder and Shepard. On the dissolution of the partnership, Paul Elder & Company came into existence and has ever since



*Corner of the Main Library of John Howell's Open Book Shop beneath the railed balcony with a small part of the rear entrance to the anteroom, taken from alcove near front entrance archway.*

occupied an important place among the bookstores of the city. Four years ago the shop was moved to its present fine building, designed by the noted California architect, Bernard Maybeck. An interesting feature of Elder's shop is its gallery in which readings and lectures on literary



*Map of the bookselling district of San Francisco, showing the location of various stores. All but two or three of the leading bookshops of the city are located within this area. Drawn by Oscar Lewis.*

topics are regularly held, and where readers have frequent opportunity to see and listen to their favorite authors. Paul Elder is another San Francisco bookseller who has on occasion turned publisher. In this department of his business he has long been concerned with good typography, and many of the volumes bearing his imprint are prized not only for their content but for the excellence of their printing.

Gelber, Lilienthal, Inc., at 336 Sutter Street, is a comparatively new name among San Francisco bookstores, but in the four years of its existence it has come to occupy a distinct place in the minds of the local book-buying public. In addition to its well-selected stock of general literature, the shop contains one of the most comprehensive rare book departments in the city. In its fine book rooms special emphasis is laid on the publications of the famous private presses, and the shelves hold a representative collection of the work of all the celebrated modern typographers. Supplementing this typographical collection, the firm, under the name of The

Lantern Press, has published a beautifully printed series of volumes by such authors as Sherwood Anderson, Stella Benson, Genevieve Taggard, and Hildegarde Flanner, all designed and printed by Edwin Grabhorn.

Another establishment well deserving of mention is that of George Hargens, a veteran of 37 years bookselling experience, whose picturesque shop in Tillman Alley seems to have been lifted bodily from some London byway. Mr. Hargens deals exclusively in old and rare editions and in fine bindings. The shop is conducted in the leisurely, old world manner dear to the heart of the browsing bibliophile, its proprietor following the pleasant custom of leaving the prospective purchaser to his own devices until he has made his selections.

Yet another unique shop is that of J. W. Stacey, in the Flood Building, Powell and Market Streets. While dealing primarily in medical and scientific books, Mr. Stacey, a scholarly and discerning judge of the best of literature, has built

up a large general trade among customers who have come to rely on the soundness of a judgment formed during a lifetime of wide and discriminating reading.

Mention should also be made of the extensive and attractive book departments of three San Francisco department stores, The Emporium, The White House, and The City of Paris. All three are modern, well-equipped, and wide-awake. Their shelves hold large and varied selections of general literature, with particular attention to the late books, especially the latest fiction. They are widely patronized and because of the volume of their sales, and for other reasons, they are coming to occupy an increasingly important place among the bookselling agencies of the city.

From an educational and cultural standpoint, the department store book sections perform a very valuable function—they are constantly widening the circle of bookbuyers in the community. A very considerable percentage of their customers are

casual bookbuyers who, in the stores on other shopping errands, pause incidentally before the attractive displays in the book departments. Many of these would never have entered the regular bookshops; but for the department stores, they probably would never have become bookbuyers at all. Thus, in addition to supplying the wants of regular customers, the department store booksellers are in a sense missionaries of the book world, engaged in the beneficent task of leading new converts into the fold.

Well worthy of notice are the two leading second-hand dealers, Harold Holmes, and King Brothers, and the foreign bookstores: the excellent French Bookshop at 324 Stockton Street, dealing in French and Spanish literature, the Italian bookstore of A. Cavalli, 255 Columbus Avenue, the Greek Bookshop on Third Street, and the several large Chinese and Japanese bookstores in their respective quarters of the city.

## The Gasoline Gypsy

Carl H. Claudy

**W**E were waiting for the ferry—I with Friend Wife, bound on a trip to the sea shore, he with an old and battered tin lizzie, a camping outfit, a dog, and a ready smile that must have done him good service in many a situation.

We fell into conversation when I made friends with the pup. "Yes," he answered me (the Stranger, not the pup!) "he's been four times across the continent. Too friendly to be of any use as a watch dog, but a lot of company on the lonely miles."

I asked him what he did for a living when he wasn't being a gasoline gypsy. His reply is the reason for this page.

"I have done a lot of things for a living," he answered me. "But the last one was the most interesting. I kept a book-store."

I suppose I showed my surprise. He didn't look nearly so much bookish as he did trampish; soiled khaki suit, leggings, bare-headed, brown as thousands of miles

in sun and wind could make him, lean, alert of eyes; he was more the civil engineer's assistant, or the college student out for a lark, than the bookman.

"I love books," he went on, simply enough. "I have always loved them. And I made a little wad down in Florida—more money than I have had for quite a while. I was tired of rolling along, anyhow, and so when I went thru a small town of perhaps twenty-five thousand and saw a store with the odd sign in the window 'partner wanted,' I parked Lizzie and went in to see what was what.

"The little store was one of those composite things one sees all thru the small towns out that way—papers and magazines, soda fountain, children's toys, crockery, waste baskets, cameras and films... no, you couldn't call it a department store, too little. But you could call it a 'if-you-don't-see-it-ask-for-it-store,' for she probably had it.

"She" was the sole owner and proprietor

—nice little thing about thirty, maybe, trying to run the business which her father had left her when he died. Wasn't making much of a go of it. And, to make a long story short, she wanted a partner and she wanted to add books to her several lines.

"I investigated a little, put in a thousand dollars, and became half owner of a lot of junk, with the idea that the thousand was to go into making a book business. I don't know much now about book selling, but I knew nothing then. But I wasn't such a fool as to rush off and buy a thousand dollars worth of books, which was what my partner wanted to do. I thought we'd better go a little slow on books for sale and see what the demand was, what demand could be created, and what might be done with a circulating library.

"You'll hardly believe that there wasn't any competition in the town—imagine a town of twenty-five thousand people where the only books which could be bought were the World Almanac, the Bible, and a few paper-covered novels on the back shelf of a cigar store. That part of it looked good. There must be some culture, some education and some curiosity in some of the people of a town of that size, I argued, and if so, a bookstore ought to pay a modest competence. So first I prospected around a little.

"After two weeks of this, while my little partner chafed at the delay, I ordered a hundred books. These were for a circulating library. I had a hundred and forty-one subscribers to this library before I ordered a book, and they each paid a dollar. They were to pay five cents a day for the use of the books they took out, with the proviso that it only cost a quarter to keep a book a week. I chose these books rather carefully. There were seventy-five modern novels, five biography, five popular science, five what I called 'world mirror' books, like "Mirrors of Downing Street" and the Colonel House letters, and five books of travel.

"Well, the result was almost appalling to me. I had to order another hundred books inside of the first week. My hundred and forty-one subscribers jumped to nearly three hundred in ten days, and before a month was over I had six hundred books on the shelves and was doing a good busi-

ness. But of course there wasn't enough in this to amount to much. We had an average of a third of the books out most of the time, but that only amounts to ten dollars a day and there is wear and tear and clerical hire and record keeping and bother connected with it, so I wouldn't call that a gold mine. But it was doing what I hoped it would do, and that was sell the town the idea that our store was a bookstore, a library, a place to come for anything connected with books.

"After a couple of months of this, and when the first popular enthusiasm over having a circulating library had died down a bit, I began to stock some books for sale, and not for rent. I tried this out very cautiously, and with some fears, for while ten dollars a day gross wasn't anything to talk about it was a lot of money for a little venture like mine, even if it was made on the other fellow's collection of dollars and not on my nest egg. But I had a theory that even ignorant people will buy books if you make them attractive enough. The trouble with a lot of bookstores I have been in is that they have too many books on display. It's too hard to find something you want when you don't know what it is you do want. My little theory was to make 'em want something, and give it to them.

"So I painted a sign for the window. Lettering signs is one of my odd ways of making a living. It wasn't much of a sign, but it appealed to something that was rife in this particular town; this 'One hundred percent Americanism' idea.

"I had the sign read 'There are two sides to every question. One hundred percent Americans are fair-minded—they want to know *both* sides.' Under this, I listed six titles of books dealing with Fundamentalism and Evolution. I sold the three dozen books I had bought on these subjects in less than two weeks, without hurting in any way the little library. One or two did want to know why I didn't put those books in the library, and I told them that they would pay too much rent for them, as these were books to live with and love and make companions of (I was very careful not to say 'study!') and they seemed to think maybe there was

something in what I said. Anyway, they bought the books.

"I have always had a great liking for popular science. So I thought I'd try that out next and I stocked a couple of dozen of books on those subjects; "Outline of Science" and "Mind in the Making" and "Callinicus" and another one of Haldane's; stuff like that. I thought some time about my window sign to sell these—mind you. I had always to remember that I was living in and appealing to the people of a small town. Just as good people and just as nice people as any people but they don't think just the same way or feel just the same way as people do in the larger centers. You can't sell them books the same way; at any rate, I couldn't. Their greatest interest was in church and politics (and gossip). I couldn't tie popular science into politics, but I did manage to ring the church in, this way. I made my sign read 'The prophets in the Bible knew their business. Do the prophets of today know theirs?' And then I listed the books.

"Now either I hit it just right or the god of luck was with me, for I sold all that order of books, out in a week. By this time I was getting orders from people who had formerly bought thru the mail and every time I got an order from a prominent man for a book, I'd order two or three copies and tell the near-great that Banker John Smith had just bought such and such a book. Half the time I'd sell on the first try! Of course, all this took time, but there is an awful lot of time in ten hours in a small town, and I had plenty of it.

"Well, what with the library paying eight or ten dollars gross a day and the book sales netting about five a day—this was after several months, of course—I decided to take a plunge and order a whole lot of books and try to sell several lines at once. But that was a mistake. I had more trouble trying to interest my little lot of buyers in four lines at once than in all the work I had done previously. I guess they had a lot of single track minds. On the other hand, I argued, you can't make an omelet without breaking a shell, and you can't read a book without cutting the

leaves. So I stuck at it, and commenced to re-invest some profits. At the end of about six or eight months I not only had a circulating library of five hundred books (not all different books, of course) but I had about five or six hundred standard, but all modern, books on the shelves. I arranged with the newsdealer, and he let me put into all the booky magazines on his tables an advertisement of every new book I stocked. I wrote a book column for the local daily paper and took as pay a four inch ad. of my store. I joined the church, the Bible class, the local lodge of the Royal and Individual Order of Sacred Camels, and everywhere I went I talked, spoke, sang and grunted books!

"Well, I stuck it out ten months. I was netting about three hundred a month on an average, what with the library and the book sales and the orders and the repeats, and the newspapers and the magazines—and all of it came because I hadn't any competition and did have the idea that people can be interested in strange things if they don't have too much of it poked at them at once. I used to have science displays, and politics displays and history displays in the window—not those piles and piles and piles of just *one* book, by which the bookstore man tries to make people think they just must read a book so many people are evidently reading, otherwise why would he have so many? Nothing like that for mine! I'd put four or five or six books, all different, in the window, but all dealing with the same subject or group of subjects, and a card on each saying a little about it. You'd be surprised the kind and character of farmers who would come in and go away with those books.

"Yes . . . I stuck it out for ten months. It was mighty good while it lasted."

"Why did you quit it?" I wanted to know.

"My partner. She wanted to marry me. I didn't want to marry her. So I sold her my interest, and pulled out. The dog was restless, too. He likes the road . . . there she blows!" he finished, referring to the ferry.

Interesting, wasn't it?

# THE Publishers' Weekly

*The American Book Trade Journal*

Founded by F. Leyboldt

EDITORS

R. R. BOWKER F. G. MELCHER  
62 W. 45th St., New York City

August 28, 1926

*I hold every man a debtor to his profession, from the which, as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves, by way of amends, to be a help and ornament thereunto.* —BACON.

## Book Speculation

A DISPATCH to the New York Times carries reports of speculation in fine books in Paris. It states that "cultured collectors are outbid by almost illiterate rivals who do not read a single one of their purchases." This type of speculation in limited or de luxe editions has appeared in every bookselling country. It has been epidemic since the war, when people newly coming to wealth have been attracted by the idea of collecting books without any real experience in estimating their value.

In Germany the epidemic ran its course two or three years ago with illustrated editions of all kinds. The French editions have been largely experimental in the field of illustration with elaborate color work, and, while many of the specimens have been extremely interesting from the point of view of production technique, it is rather early to prophesy for them a maintenance of the price level which has been established by the speculative fever to buy.

The same kind of epidemic broke out in this country some twenty years ago for limited editions of standard authors, and hundreds of people bought sets of de luxe editions on the argument that they were soon to go up in price, and in many cases the canvassers bought back sets at radical advances only to turn around and sell the victims more sets with which to speculate.

The prices on such sets in the present market shows how fictitious the values were. Many de luxe editions of modern authors printed recently have followed the same course, except in cases where there was a real demand for the complete works of such writers sufficient, as in the case of Stevenson and Conrad, to absorb the number of sets created.

## The Value of Exhibits

IT seems as tho the value of book exhibits to create the love and desire for books has never been fully tested, except in the case of old and rare volumes. Such exhibits as those held in the rooms of the New York Public Library bring thousands of people and do much to stimulate new interest in books as well as to keep established enthusiasms burning brightly.

The traveling exhibits of the Fifty Books of the American Institute of Graphic Arts are fulfilling a real function in building up a desire for well-made volumes. At the National Arts Club there is a notable exhibit of Incunabula during the next few weeks which will bring hundreds of people to the examination of this rare and beautiful material. The National Arts Club is also responsible for an annual exhibit of current books held in November which serves to dramatize the general public interest in the high tide of fall publication.

In a sense every bookstore is a book exhibit, especially in the fall when new publications are coming to hand and book lovers form a habit of drifting in and out and browsing over the new arrivals, enjoying the handling of the volumes as well as exposing themselves to the temptation of making new additions to their libraries. There are, however, thousands of people who have not formed the bookstore habit, and it would seem as tho some dramatization of the book idea, thru special exhibits in the bookstore could be worked out effectively.

Could not any store have a book opening in October when everyone is back from vacation, when the whole store is rearranged to catch the attention of the visitors, and when special advertising would

bring the knowledge of the occasion to the attention of new areas of potential buyers? No kind of exhibit would be so helpful as one in the bookstore, which would not only call attention to the new volumes but would suggest the continuous supply of books.

### Stuart P. Sherman

THE booktrade as well as the world of literature has experienced a great loss in the sudden death of Stuart P. Sherman. As teacher of literature at the University of Illinois he made his leadership felt thru the whole Middle West. As a writer and literary controversialist he built up an audience that was country-wide. The permanence of his contributions to American literature was recognized by his election to the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

His coming to New York was in response to a very urgent proposal from the owners of the *Herald Tribune* who had resolved to raise their literary supplement into national significance. His leading editorials have had vigor and breadth of view and a background of omniverous reading. His loss at the early age of forty-five was at the opening of a career of great influence.

### William H. (Coin) Harvey

THE death of William H. (Coin) Harvey at his home in Arkansas brings to memory a famous episode in American publishing, inasmuch as Harvey's book "Coin's Financial School" achieved one of the most spectacular successes of any printed document in this country. This little book, published in 1894 and largely circulated in paper covers, provided the effective arguments for the free silver program of Bryan in 1896. The arguments were organized with a simplicity and logic that carried the free silver idea of salvation into every corner of the country, especially among the groups which had been hard pressed by the business depressions of that time.

Pamphleteering on such scale has not been a feature of recent American political

history, and the extent of its sale has only been paralleled by that of such books as Wagner's "The Simple Life" and Coué's "Autosuggestion."

Mr. Harvey kept up his writing for many years, and as late as 1920 published a book on "Commonsense." With the large income from these successful publications he had built a castle in Arkansas, which he hoped would prove to be a retreat for thinkers and writers.

### Circulation at Any Cost

THE large women's magazines which carry such a heavy proportion of advertising are in such close competition with each other for circulation that it seems vital to them to get subscribers at any reduction of cost. The plan of the *Ladies' Home Journal* to use books for circulation building has now been followed in current announcements by the *Woman's Home Companion*, which will for \$1 send the magazine to a new subscriber for a year and throw in a 75c. book, postage paid. This would mean 15c. left for the value of twelve magazines; little enough. The *Home Companion* states that these books are not premiums. Apparently that word is in bad odor in the magazine field.

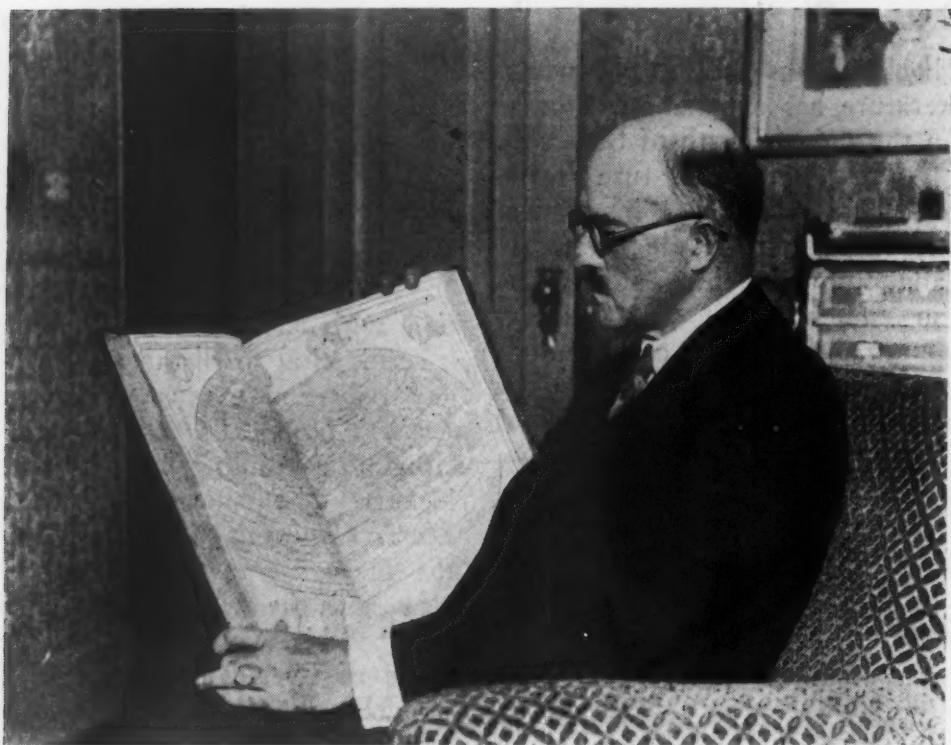
The Publishers' Association has been pointing out at Washington that books deserve as low a postal rate as magazines, and the low subscription price set on the magazines in these offers indicates that such periodicals could easily stand a higher postal rate without increasing their subscription cost to the consumer.

### A Guide to the Literature of Revolutionary Times

IN connection with a committee of the Women's Division of the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition, William H. Ames, librarian of Carlisle, Pa., has prepared an excellent book list of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods which will be of value to booksellers as well as to librarians. This 16-page booklet lists books under the headings of History, Biography, Travel and Description, and Fiction.

# The Wonders of Early Bookmaking

*The Vollbehr Incunabula on Exhibit*



*Dr. Otto H. F. Vollbehr whose remarkable collection of fifteenth century books is on exhibit in New York*

THE book loving world of America is having its opportunity to pay tribute to the founders of the art and craft of bookmaking thru the exhibition in America of the great collection of incunabula belonging to Dr. Otto H. F. Vollbehr of Berlin, a collection unparalleled in America and amazing in its completeness and in the beauty of its specimens.

Simply to enter the exhibition room and see 3000 volumes in dignified array of browns, reds and whites will thrill anyone who is at all familiar with what that great period, 1450-1500, means to the world. Dr. Vollbehr brought his collection to this country as a contribution to the success of the great Eucharistic Congress in Chicago. The books were given display in that city in June, and Dr. Vollbehr presented to Cardinal Mundelein, himself a bibliophile,

manuscripts by four of the mediaeval Popes.

Thru the active interest of Colonel Edwin Emerson of the National Arts Club of New York, Dr. Vollbehr consented to show his collection here for six weeks before returning with it to Berlin, and the gallery for its display was opened on Monday, the 23rd, following a dinner in Dr. Vollbehr's honor, at which time John Clyde Oswald presided and Dr. George Parker Winship of the Widener Library of Harvard spoke in appreciation of the exhibit.

The collection completely lines the long gallery of the National Arts Club and a hundred or more volumes selected by Dr. Winship have been opened in cases and labeled for more careful examination. One only has to remember the value of a single incunabulum as currently listed in any foreign catalog or to remember the prices



Richenthal's "Council of Constance" printed at Augsberg in 1483 has this picture of the Pope being overturned in the snow

that are brought by exceptionally fine items to realize the enormous value of these books. Dr. Pierce Butler, librarian of the Newberry Library, Chicago, and one of the leading authorities in the country on printing, has estimated that the books must have a value of \$2,500,000. As the collection is not for sale, such estimates are only of academic interest, but some sidelight on the value of the collection is suggested by the report that duplicates from the library which Dr. Vollbehr has sold to Mr. Huntington of California were priced at \$1,250,000, and there are many other books that were not brought to this country. That this collection has been made in the course of fifteen years of collecting is remarkable tribute to an indefatigable collector.

It is estimated that the period of printing thru 1500 includes about 30,000 volumes. Of these a large number are known only by one or two specimens. There are 466 books in this collection that have been previously undescribed. There are 800 that are not found in the famous bibliography of Hain, which has been a standard authority on fifteenth century books.

Some idea of the variety of the editions shown is indicated by the fact that there are:

- 55 different Bibles
- 50 editions of St. Augustine
- 30 editions of St. Jerome
- 22 of Savonarola
- 20 of Aristotle
- 15 of Ovid
- 6 of Aesop
- 6 of Dante
- 12 of Petrarch

The subjects are largely religious or ecclesiastical, the general trend of books for that day, but there are also included edicts, chronicles, calendars, almanacs, dictionaries, encyclopaedias, schoolbooks, works on mathematics, astronomy, astrology, alchemy, medicine, etc.

The volumes range in size from the largest folios, such as the famous Cologne and Nuremberg Chronicles, of which there are immaculate copies, to tiny vest pocket productions. There are bindings of every



A medical book printed at Venice in 1495 has these remarkably graphic illustrations



*This picture of Adam and Eve is from Botho's "Saxon Chronicle" printed by Schoeffer at Mainz in 1492*

sort, wood, vellum, contemporary leather, and some of the volumes have been rebound by later owners. Altho most of the books are in Latin, there are hundreds of texts in Greek, Hebrew, German, Dutch, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, English, and numerous European dialects.

To those who study the books not for their historical interest but for the beauty of the typography the volumes that have been opened up for inspection will give a marvelous insight into the facility and genius of the early days of printing. There are the beautiful service books of Schoeffer, specimens of Aldus such as the copy of Laurentius Marolus, 1497; a French Book of Hours of 1497 on vellum; a Greek Anthology from Florence, 1494; the beautiful Italian edition of Dante, 1493; the first book printed in Rome, 1467; Ludolphus's "Life of Our Saviour," printed in Antwerp, 1487, and notable for its extraordinary colored woodcuts; Petrarch's "Canzoniere," Venice, 1473; the

Ptolemy Atlas, 1482; these simply to mention a few of the books, striking for the perfection of their design.

That this art which Gutenberg so miraculously perfected at Mainz should have so rapidly spread thruout Europe is the marvel of that era, and that in each city there should have developed new styles of type and new characteristics of format shows the readiness with which these artists of the new craft adapted themselves to the needs of the communities they were endeavoring to serve.

"Gutenberg's greatest contribution," said Dr. Winship in his address at the opening of the exhibit, "was perhaps the perfecting of the hand mold for casting types, a simple mechanical device whose origin cannot be otherwise traced, but which seems to date back to his first labors. With this simple but perfect aid, printers could cast their own types in whatever city they came to and use type forms suitable to the circumstances. Thus this great exhibit takes on a variety and beauty that would not have been possible if all had been working with the same matrices and the same standard rules."

In connection with this exhibit a brochure called "The Vollbehr Incunabula," by George Parker Winship, has been printed by Pynson Printers for Dr. Vollbehr; a brochure that is a fitting memento of this great occasion. To quote from its opening paragraph:

"The books of the fifteenth century are the abiding monument to the most perplexing and the most instructive of historical eras. . . . No other era has provided anything comparable to these books in impressiveness, of equal power to grip the imagination of future ages, so that the word incunabula has become the synonym for all that is finest and most abiding in the world of books."

Since the Exhibit opened one of the treasures of the collection, a tiny manuscript book valued at \$20,000 has been stolen. The book, the "Officium Mortuorum" with four beautiful illuminations by Aravanti degli Aravanti, was taken from a locked case. The case in which this book was kept had a weak lock, but this was replaced Wednesday morning at eleven o'clock, yet before two o'clock it was noticed that the book had disappeared.

## In the Book Market

**F**LORENCE Ayscough, whose book "A Chinese Mirror" (Houghton Mifflin) received so much attention last winter is to have a new book this fall, "The Autobiography of a Chinese Dog." This, like Miss Ayscough's "Chinese Mirror" will be illustrated by Lucille Douglass, that much traveled lady who has visited every spot on the globe, except Nizhni Novgorod and Constantinople. The book will be published by Houghton, Mifflin. . ¶ . In September the International Publishers will publish "The Eighteenth of Brumaire of Louis Bonaparte" by Karl Marx, a caustic characterization of "Napoleon the Little" and his *coup d'état* of 1851. This essay of Marx's was first published in the United States in 1852 and now appears in a new translation from the German by Edan and Cedar Paul. . ¶ . Two new Milne books issue from the house of Putnam, "Success," a play in three acts, and "Once on a Time." With "When We Were Very Young" Milne established a name for himself as a writer of children's books for grown-ups. "Once on a Time" carries on his peculiar mission. It takes its place on the shelf with "The Wind in the Willows," "Alice in Wonderland," "Treasure Island" and Anatole France's "Honey-Bee" as a book to be read about once a year. It is a story of fairy-land where life was not so straightforward as the romances pretend, but where the inhabitants were real men and women.

. ¶ . From princes and magic swords to Diesel engines! The Norman W. Henley Co. has published a book which, in a thoro manner, covers the use of the Diesel engine in marine, locomotive and stationary work. It is titled "Diesel Engines—Marine, Locomotive, Stationary" and is by David L. Jones. . ¶ . Clara Sharpe Hough has written an historical novel, "Leif the Lucky" which Century is publishing this month. The fact that America was discovered half a thousand years before Columbus by the Vikings under Leif Erickson has now received general historical acceptance. Mrs. Sharpe in her history of

the Norsemen traces their progress from Iceland to Greenland, then to Nova Scotia and the islands lying off what is now Rhode Island, but does not neglect an interesting story of character growth and vast spiritual unrest. . ¶ . Another Century book of the month is Barry Benefield's "Short Turns." Benefield's first book "The Chicken-Wagon Family" was well-received, and the audience which that book won him has been waiting for the second book. "Short Turns" is a collection of fourteen short stories. . ¶ .

Augustus Thomas, Hamilton Gibbs, Henry Seidel Canby, Ben Ames Williams, Mary Roberts Rinehart, Katherine Fullerton Gerould and John Farrar are among the contributors to what promises to be a unique and important book for those interested in the business of writing for publication. "The Free Lance Writer's Handbook" is the result of the cooperative effort of a number of leading American authorities on writing for publication to provide a survey of the opportunities open to free lance writers. There will also be a directory of literary markets. The book is compiled by William D. Kennedy, editor of *The Writer* and will be published early in September by the Writer Publishing Company in Cambridge, Mass. . ¶ . Frank Harris's latest book is a drama about Joan of Arc and titled "Joan La Romée." This is published by the newly-established Frank Harris Publishing Company at 246 Fifth Avenue. . ¶ . The Buffalo *Evening News* feeling that Cleveland's years in Buffalo have been neglected by his biographers, ten of the most formative years in his life, have published "Grover Cleveland as Buffalo Knew Him" by Charles H. Armitage. The Buffalo paper is not a publishing house and is only publishing the book at the request of libraries, scholars and book lovers. Therefore there will be an edition of only 1000 copies. Orders will be filled in strict rotation according to date of receipt. The book is bound in black cloth, contains 280 pages, 20 illustrations and sells for \$2.00.



## Seashore Bookshops



THAT the various summer gathering places are not being neglected this year in the field of books is indicated by the pictures that have been received from points along the New England Coast.

At Provincetown, Mrs. Martha Robinson has taken the corner room of a dignified house on the main street and made a most bookish shop out of it, making the entrance attractive and inviting by brilliant orange and black signs with cat and parrot designs near the doorstep painted by a friendly artist. A parasol of eye-catching color on the front lawn shades a table on which are strewn magazines to suggest the reading habit and to indicate the enticements within. Mrs. Robinson has had experience in bookselling in Cleve-

land and carries a good stock with the best current literature and things of seafaring and art appeal.

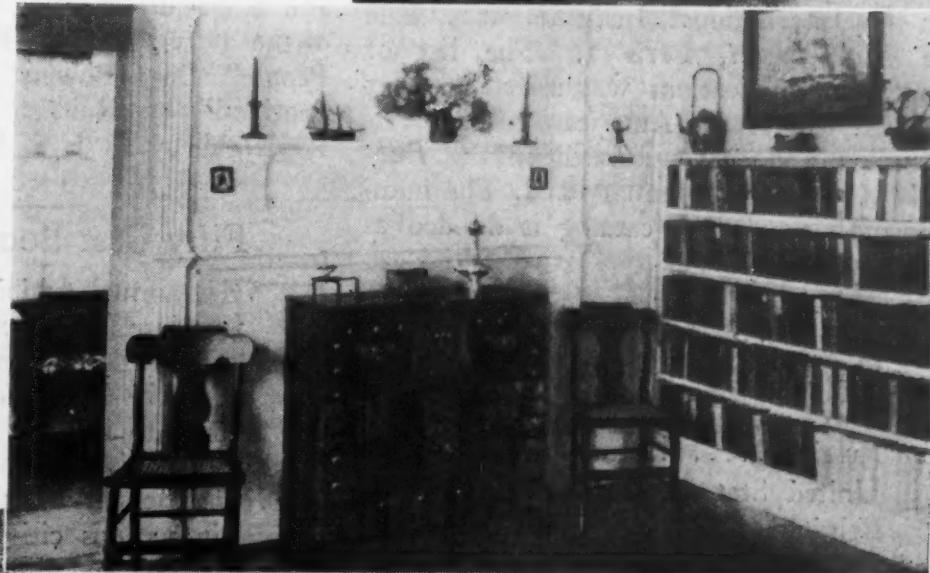
From Salem comes a photograph, thru the courtesy of Hulings C. Brown, showing the effort to connect up books with the tercentenary of the beautiful old city. "Chestnut Street, the most beautiful street in New England," writes Mr. Brown, "was closed to traffic and given over to the three sewing societies of Salem. These societies consist of forty ladies each, and each society has its long and interesting history. All of the old houses were thrown open for inspection, and the ladies were all in costume. An old stagecoach with four horses passed up and down." The two proprietors of the Book Shop are



*Connecting books with Salem's Tercentenary Celebration*

Marie E. Fabeus, member of the American Booksellers' Association, and Mrs. Charles G. Dyer. They showed good enterprise in connecting their books up with this general historical occasion.

The Little Book House at Nantucket, which was founded by Miss Katherine Lord and Mrs. Anne Knapp Barnes, in 1924, has been feeling around for a year round department which would supplement its summer business. The out-of-print Nantucket books of interest to year-round residents and long-season cottagers, and the great literature of whaling—the little island having at one time been the most important whaling port of America—have proved an ideal specialty. So satisfactory was the response to the shop's tentative offerings in these lines that after the second season Miss Lord was enabled to go abroad with commissions that necessitated four months of active search in four countries. The Little Book House is now definitely opening its department of rarities with a considerable treasure trove of books and prints relating to sealife and the whaling industry, and some items of general interest, and will send out a catalog this fall. The shop has an important place in connection with the new Whaling Museum.



The upper picture is of the doorway to The Little Book House at Nantucket; the two lower ones of the interior and exterior of Martha Robinson's Book Shop at Provincetown.

## The International List of Notable Books of 1924

AT its session of July, 1924, the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation, a section of the League of Nations, adopted, at the recommendation of its sub-committee, a proposal made by Dr. C. J. Hagberg Wright for the annual issue of a brief list of notable books published in the various countries of the world, "books, that is," to quote the bulletin, "of a sort qualified to make known the intellectual effort of each of the countries in question."

The total number fixed at 600 has been divided among the different countries according to the number of books issued by each during the year, but the total for any one country has been limited to 40. The complete bulletin covering the year 1924, which, owing to the lateness of the undertaking, has not come out very promptly this year is now ready in pamphlet form, and can be obtained from the headquarters of the International Institute, at 2 Rue de Montpensier, Paris 1. The list of American publications was selected under the auspices of the American Library Association and was published in the *Publishers' Weekly* of January 2nd. The number of books in the catalog is divided as follows:

France .....	40
Great Britain .....	40
Italy .....	40
Russia .....	40
United States .....	38
Belgium .....	20
Poland .....	20
Czecho-Slovakia .....	20
Denmark .....	10
Spain .....	10
Finland .....	10
Greece .....	10
Hungary .....	10
Norway .....	10
Yugo-Slavia .....	10
Australia .....	5
Canada .....	5
Egypt .....	5
Irish Free State .....	5

No list for Germany, Sweden or Switzerland is included in this first survey. No comment on these omissions is given in the pamphlet. It seems likely that the agency for making the list did not operate in time to have them ready.

The lists that will interest American readers to the largest extent will be those of the United States, already printed in full, Great Britain, France and Canada. It will be noticed in studying the lists that the emphasis is on the intellectual effort of these countries rather than on works of imagination, possibly with the feeling that creative literature flows more readily of its own accord to other countries than does the knowledge of the outstanding books of scholarship. In the English list there are four titles of fiction and drama: Forster's "Passage to India," Galsworthy's "White Monkey," Kennedy's "The Constant Nymph" and Shaw's "St. Joan." There is no poetry in the English list and no biography that had any sale or interest in the United States. In the section of history and biography there is listed the "History of the Tory Party" by Feiling, "Mediaeval People" by Power, "Parliaments of Scotland" by Rait, and "Life of Lord Rayleigh" by R. J. S. Rayleigh.

## Fifty Best Book Exhibits

THE annual exhibits of the American Institute of Graphic Arts of the "Fifty Best Books of the Year" chosen for the beauty of their typography are helping to increase popular interest in good bookmaking. The exhibit was held in New York in May and is now being shown in various cities.

Booksellers and librarians should give publicity to these exhibits locally and should arrange special displays of beautiful books in their windows when the "Fifty Books" are shown in their cities.

The tentative schedule for the traveling exhibits of the "Fifty Books of 1925" is as follows:

### Eastern Tour

Chicago, Ill.—Newberry Library, Sept. 18—Oct. 16.  
Buffalo, N. Y.—Grosvenor Library, Oct. 23—Nov. 6.

Rochester, N. Y.—The Memorial Art Gallery, Nov. 13-30.  
 New Haven, Conn.—Yale University Library, Dec. 4-18.  
 Cleveland, O.—The Cleveland Museum of Art, Dec. 27—Jan. 8.  
 Washington, D. C.—Government Printing Office, Jan. 15-29.  
 Philadelphia, Pa.—The University of Pennsylvania, Feb. 5-19.  
 Princeton, N. J.—Princeton University Library, Feb. 26—Mar. 5.  
 Brooklyn, N. Y.—Pratt Institute, Mar. 12-26.  
 Boston, Mass.—Public Library, Apr. 2-16.  
 Providence, R. I.—The John Carter Brown Library, Apr. 23—May 7.  
 Baltimore, Md.—The Baltimore Museum, May 14-31.

#### Western Tour

Seattle, Wash.—Fine Arts Society, Aug. 28—Sept. 18.  
 Portland, Oregon—Portland Library Association, Aug. 7-21.  
 Eugene, Oregon—University of Oregon, Sept. 25—Oct. 6.  
 Berkeley, Cal.—University of California, Oct. 13-19.  
 Stanford Univ., Cal.—Stanford University, Oct. 25—Nov. 1.  
 San Francisco, Cal.—California Fine Arts School, Nov. 8-29.  
 Des Moines, Iowa—Club of Printing House Craftsmen, Jan. 3-10.  
 St. Louis, Mo.—Public Library, Jan. 17—Feb. 7.  
 Denver, Colo.—Denver Museum, Feb. 14-28.  
 Nashville, Tenn.—Nashville Art Association, Apr. 23-30.  
 Savannah, Ga.—Public Library, May 7-14.

A check list of the "Fifty Books of 1925" appeared in the *Publishers' Weekly*, May 1st, 1926.

#### Rough Stuff

Publisher of Sex Magazine. You're exceeding your budget on overhead, Bill. You've got to cut down.

Editor: It isn't so much the overhead, Chief—it's the increasing cost of raw material.

#### For the Study of the Alphabet

DOUGLAS C. McMURTRIE, to whom American book makers and bibliographers are indebted for new contributions to their knowledge of the history and practical problems of printing, has just issued thru Bridgman Publishers, of Pelham, a handy little book on "Alphabets" which will interest the student of typography.

Mr. McMurtrie's volume prints, in full, twenty-nine different fonts of type, lower case on one page, capitals on the opposite page, each in large size and widely spaced so that the letters and their drawing can be carefully studied. The selection of types made, coming as it does from so high authority, is in itself of interest.

#### Concerning New York's Signers of the Declaration

OF New York's four signers of the Declaration of Independence, to whose memory a tablet was unveiled this week at Albany, little more can be said than that they were representative men of Revolutionary New York, thoroughly loyal to the cause, and faithful until the end. Two bore names famous in the politics of the Colony and State—Philip Livingston and Lewis Morris. Another, Francis Lewis, was the father of one of the early governors of New York, Morgan Lewis. The fourth was William Floyd, whose name is still remembered on Long Island, even though later he moved to central New York and died there. Livingston, altho he inherited wealth and leisure, represented the active merchant class, which even in those days was one of the most important in New York. Floyd was a good Long Island farmer, shrewd and hard-headed. Morris represented the landed aristocracy. Lewis was a self-made man of affairs. Livingston, Floyd, Morris and Lewis were real patriots, devoted to the cause of independence, and not afraid to stake their all on its success.

These four men formed a very suitable delegation, and if not the greatest of the fifty-six signers, they played their part well, and their memory should be cherished by their state and country.

## The Problem of the Salacious Magazine

THE experience of St. Louis during the past year in handling the problem of the intentionally salacious magazine as described in the *Survey* of August 15th will be interesting to other communities, as the problem is a common one.

It is easy to make sweeping statements about the importance of an absolutely free distribution of printed matter, but most people believe that there is a line that must be drawn and that can be drawn between the public's difficulties with matter printed which proves objectionable to some people, and the intentionally salacious magazine that hopes to build its circulation on that appeal.

Years ago, before the problem of salacious magazines was so serious as it is today, the state legislature of Missouri enacted a very inclusive law prohibiting the sale, circulation or distribution of "obscene, lewd, licentious, indecent or lascivious" magazines. Apparently the lawyers exhausted their vocabulary in describing the literature that was to come under the law. It would seem that so inclusive a law should make the campaign against indecent magazines comparatively simple, but other factors have stood in the way of complete success.

Last spring, according to George B. Mangold, its educational director, the Board of Religious Organizations of St. Louis became interested in the problem. Thru its department of protection and delinquency it made a careful study of the situation. It was discovered that a large number of doubtful magazines were being sold, not only at nearly all the news-stands, but in many drug stores. School children were reading them and passing them on to their friends. The protective and correctional agencies considered these magazines an important source of contamination and delinquency.

The Board of Religious Organizations decided to press the matter. One of its first steps was to prepare the way for community action by securing the approval of friends working thru the other social and religious agencies of the city. A petition

asking that the laws against the sale and distribution of indecent literature be strictly enforced had more than three thousand signatures. The committee took up the matter with the prosecuting attorney, who issued an order to the police instructing them to arrest all dealers handling certain magazines, twelve of which were designated in his letter. One of the two general distributors of these agreed to abide by the order, the other insisted on being arrested and having the case tried in court so that the problem might be settled once for all.

The case came up before the Court of Criminal Corrections on the first of July, 1925. The defense, faced by a large number of women, was taken by surprise, and secured a postponement. Meanwhile, distribution of these magazines was prohibited.

Then the trial in September lasted three days. The two chief witnesses for the prosecution were thoroly grilled, but survived. In addition an art critic connected with one of the daily newspapers and representatives from the social hygiene society and the public schools greatly damaged the case of the defense. As was to be expected, the defense claimed that what was considered obscene and salacious by the prosecution was nothing more than art, and the jurors were regaled with photographs of nude pictures and statues found in various art galleries. The defense tried its utmost to group the indecencies pictured in these magazines in the same category with some of the best exhibits of reputable museums. On two occasions they attempted to bring in the Bible; the judge forbade the introduction of Biblical material. Shakespeare's "Venus and Adonis" did receive a hearing. At best it is difficult to draw the line of demarcation between decency and indecency as provided by law since neither the background nor the settings of an exhibit can be given adequate consideration. The jury was expected to reach a decision quickly and to acquit; instead it disagreed.

In view of the clear statement of the law this may seem like a defeat for the restrictionists, but St. Louis' opinion is to the contrary. The public is much more enlightened and the publicity gained was

largely favorable. The case is still pending and can be called up at any time. Meanwhile the most indecent of the magazines are prohibited from sale. In fact, the magazine situation is much better than it was twelve months ago.

Various organizations interested in the problem have now established a central society known as the Civic Union of St. Louis. They expect to operate thru this organization and push their campaign with renewed vigor. Committees on surveys, law enforcements and legislation have been created, thru which the capacity of the people to suppress indecent literature will be thoroly explored. *Success, however, must depend on the gradually increasing insistence of the community on desirable instead of indecent literature.*

## Department Leasing in Retail Stores

*Practical information from a Government Survey*

THE Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce of the United States Department of Commerce has just issued a bulletin representing a study conducted in 42 cities throughout the United States on the subject of leased departments. This has been prepared by one of the Department's investigators, A. L. Bush. The pamphlet can be obtained from the Department of Commerce and will give valuable suggestions to owners of department stores or to booksellers who might be interested in leasing departments in stores.

Some of the facts brought out indicate that a great expansion of business in the war period and thereafter made it difficult for many stores to develop as rapidly as opportunities seemed to occur, which led to an increase in the amount of rented and leased space. Few stores, however, have been successfully operated with all departments leased, largely due to the difficulty of maintaining a uniformity of service to the public. Many large establishments have gradually developed into centralized control out of the experiments in leased control. Of late, however, there have been new tendencies towards leasing appearing in certain lines of merchandise, and at pres-

ent about one-third of the department stores of the United States have one or more leased departments.

Large stores in metropolitan cities seldom lease important sections. Among the fourteen departments most frequently leased, books are not mentioned, but the report speaks of the book department as a department occasionally leased. There are three distinct types of tenants: the syndicate company which is a specialist in distributing one kind of merchandise; the manufacturer who has organized a subsidiary company to distribute his merchandise; the individual, or one-man type, not often developed.

The reasons on the store's side for making such contracts are given as the desire for store expansion without increase of investment; or the lessee's superior purchasing facilities; or because an increased volume of sales may result from a lessee's specialized knowledge. Sometimes specialized departments are too small to warrant paying a highly capable manager, and this may be one of the reasons for the development of leased book departments.

That leasing does endanger centralized control was emphasized by many who replied to the inquiry. It has also proved to be a danger in jeopardizing the store's good will thru the mistakes that may be made in one department.

With regard to the contracts made, there seems to be no set form, but a typical contract is printed in full in the Bureau of Commerce Bulletin and gives valuable indication of the types of problems to be faced in such arrangements. A store may lease on a flat rate basis or on a basis of a percentage of net profits, or on a percentage of the gross sales, or with various combinations of flat rate, yearly guarantee, and percentage of profits on sales. When the total operating expense of the department is divided between the store and the lessee, the latter, as a rule, pays the store somewhere about 15% of the gross sales and then takes care of his own advertising, buying and selling expenses. The majority of stores agree that the most satisfactory way in leasing is to pro-rate the rent on the same basis that would be the case if the department leased was operated by the store itself.

## Obituary Notes

## DR. C. W. ELIOT

CHARLES W. ELIOT, President Emeritus of Harvard University, and called "the first Citizen of the land," died on August 22 at the age of 92, at his summer home in Northeast Harbor, Maine. Dr. Eliot was born in Boston in 1834 and educated at Boston Latin School and Harvard, where he received his A.B., A.M., LL.D. and honorary M.D. He also received LL.D.'s from all of the larger universities in the country. Dr. Eliot was assistant professor of mathematics and chemistry at Harvard from 1858 to 1863, and after further study in Europe was professor of analytical chemistry at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1865 to 1869. He became president of Harvard in 1869 and held the post until 1909 when he became President Emeritus. After his retirement as acting president Dr. Eliot did not consider his work done but only begun and remained active in all fields the remaining seventeen years of his life. It was during this period that Dr. Eliot edited "the Harvard Classics," better known as the "five foot bookshelf." The most important of Dr. Eliot's own books include: "Five American Contributions to Civilization, and other Essays," "Educational Reform," "Charles Eliot—Landscape Architect," "John Gilley," "The Happy Life" and "Four American Leaders," "The Durable Satisfactions of Life" and "The Road Toward Peace." The year of the publication of this last book, 1915, he was awarded 1st gold medal by the American Academy of Arts and Letters as a recognition of "special distinction." His last book, "A Late Harvest," miscellaneous papers written between eighty and ninety was published as a special recognition of his ninetieth birthday.

## OBITUARY

## FREDERICK W. SLATER

FREDERICK W. SLATER, for over forty years connected with the London office of Harper and Bros., retiring from its management in 1924, died, after a short illness, on August 22nd.

## STUART PRATT SHERMAN

STUART PRATT SHERMAN, literary editor of the New York *Herald Tribune* and one of the foremost American critics, died suddenly on Saturday, August 28th. 21 Professor Sherman had been canoeing with Mrs. Sherman on Lake Michigan at Dunewood, a resort near Manistee where the Shermans have been regular summer residents for the last thirteen years. When the canoe was upset both began swimming to shore, Mrs. Sherman arriving safely. But Dr. Sherman when but a short distance from the shore had a heart attack which was fatal.

Dr. Sherman was born at Anita, Ia., on October 1st, 1881, and graduated from Williams in 1903. He received his A. M. at Harvard in 1904, a Ph.D., at the same college in 1906 and an L.H.D., from Williams in 1922. He was an instructor in English at Northwestern University in 1906 and 1907 and first Assistant Professor and finally head of the English Department at the University of Illinois where he was a great favorite. When three years ago Professor Sherman was offered a position on the faculty at Yale, thousands of students at the University of Illinois joined in a petition asking him to remain there. But in 1924 he resigned to become literary editor of the *Herald Tribune*. In 1923 he was elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Letters, succeeding Thomas Nelson Page. He is survived by his wife, who was Miss Ruth Mears of Williamstown, Mass., and whom he married in 1906, and one son, John, who is twenty years old.

Dr. Sherman was an associate editor with Professor W. P. Trent, Carl Van Doren and John Erskine of "The Cambridge History of American Literature," having contributed two of the most brilliant chapters of the book. Other books of his include: "Matthew Arnold," 1917; "On Contemporary Literature," 1917; "Americans," 1922; "The Genius of America," 1923; "My Dear Cornelia," 1924; "Points of View," 1924; "Letters To A Lady in the Country," 1925, and "Critical Wood-cuts," 1926. In addition Dr. Sherman has edited some eleven books.

### JAMES A. JENKINS

JAMES A. JENKINS, age sixty-three, for many years a bookseller in New York, died in White Plains on August 17th. In his earlier years he was located on lower Sixth Avenue and later in a shop on upper Fifth Avenue, opposite the Public Library, from which he retired about twelve years ago. For some time past he had been confined in a sanitarium for mental disorders. His brother, William R. Jenkins, who died many years ago, was a well-known publisher and bookseller in the eighties and nineties. Mr. Jenkins is survived by a son, Everett R. Jenkins, of Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

### Magazine Ban Lifted

THE New York Customs House recently barred the importation of an English publication called "The Key to London," printed with information for tourists, because of the national prohibition Act which makes it unlawful to advertise anywhere or by any means or method liquor or to show the price at which same may be obtained, but the ban was lifted after Assistant United States Attorney, John M. Harlan, ruled that the magazine, was not subject to forfeiture. An advertisement in the magazine called attention to Grant's cherry brandy. The Prohibition Law exempts only newspapers and the questions of magazines carrying such advertising had not previously been raised. Mr. Harlan said there was no violation of the national prohibition act because the advertisement of liquor, the focus of which was in some foreign country, constituted no offense. The ban was lifted and instructions issued to remove all customs restrictions on the publication. This ruling allowing English magazines of this character to enter is a fortunate one for great numbers are sold in America.

### Business Notes

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—The Frank Harris Publishing Co., Inc. a distributing office for all of Frank Harris's books has been established at 246 Fifth Ave.

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—Dr. S. Gerhanek, 450 Audubon Ave., will open a

general bookstore, specializing in medical books, about October 1st.

COLDWATER, MICH.—Mrs. Warner Van Aken has established a rental fiction library at 225 East Chicago Street.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH.—The Eastern Avenue Book Store has been bought out by Mr. Guerink and is now known as the Smitter Book Company.

GREENVILLE, TEXAS.—Collins Book Company has been adjudged in bankruptcy, and a meeting of its creditors was held on August 26th.

HOLLYWOOD, CAL.—Brown's Book Nook of Long Beach, Cal., has been removed to this town, locating at 1639 North Cahuenga Ave., and will be known as "Brown's Book Store."

NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.—The publishing business of Thomas Seltzer, Inc. is being taken over by A. & C. Boni, and orders can now be placed thru their office.

PALO ALTO, CAL.—The Palo Alto Book Shop is opening at 158 University Avenue, Robert I. Collyer, proprietor. Mr. Collyer was for five years buyer for Paul Elder in San Francisco and for the past year assistant buyer at the Emporium. Palo Alto is the seat of Stanford University, has a population of 12,000 and is the trading center for 25,000. Both books and stationery will be handled. Publishers catalogs are wanted.

### Communication CHAIN BOOKSTORES

August 20, 1926.

Editor, *Publishers' Weekly*:

From the following, it would appear that booksellers must have been among the first merchants to have *Chain Stores*.

The Task, a Poem, in Six Books by William Cowper, Albany. Printed for Whiting, Backus & Whiting: sold at their stores in Schenectady, Utica and Canandaigua, 1804.

ROBSON & ADEE.

# The Weekly Record of New Publications

THIS list aims to be a complete and accurate record of American book publications. Pamphlets will be included only if of special value. Publishers should send copies of all books promptly for annotation and entry, and the receipt of advance copies insures record simultaneous with publication. The annotations are descriptive, not critical; intended to place not to judge the books. Pamphlet material and books of lesser trade interest are listed in smaller type.

The entry is transcribed from title page when the book is sent for record. Prices are added except when not supplied by publisher or obtainable only on specific request, in which case word "apply" is used. When not specified the binding is "cloth."

Imprint date or best available date, preferably copyright date in bracket, is always stated, except when imprint date and copyright date agree and are of the current year, in which case only "c" is used. No ascertainable date is designated thus: [n.d.].

Sizes are indicated as follows: F (folio: over 30 centimeters high); Q (4to: under 30 cm.); O (8vo: 25 cm.); D (12mo: 20 cm.); S (16mo: 17½ cm.); T (24mo: 15 cm.); sq., obl., nar., designate square, oblong, narrow.

## Alcott, Louisa May

An old-fashioned girl; il. by Elenore Abbott. 328p. il. (col.) O (Beacon Hill b'kshelf) '26, '97-'26 Bost. Little, Brown \$2

## Ames, Joseph Bushnell

The mounted troop. 219p. il. D [c. '26] N. Y. Century \$1.75

Adventures of a troop of Boy Scouts in the west, and Tex Laranger, whom they find, exhausted, in a lonely canyon.

## Arden, Clive, pseud. [Lily Clive Nutt]

The veil of glamour. 343p. D [c. '26] Ind. Bobbs-Merrill \$2

The problem of a trial marriage is worked out on the sands of Africa.

## Ashe, George Bamford, and Hale, John Isaac

Engineering materials and processes. 269p. (bibl.) 11. diagrs. O '26 Annapolis, Md. U. S. Naval Inst. \$3.90

## Averill, Lawrence Augustus

Educational hygiene. 562p. (bibls.) il., diagrs. D (Riverside textb'ks in educ.) [c. '26] Bost. Houghton \$2.60

## Barbour, Ralph Henry

Tod Hale with the crew. 307p. il. D c. N. Y. Dodd, Mead \$1.75

Tod Hale comes to Nostrand School and becomes coxswain of the crew—the first of the Tod Hale Series.

## Barry Charles

The detective's holiday. 292p. D [c. '26] N. Y. Dutton \$2

A Scotland Yard detective solves a mysterious murder, which occurs during his vacation in a little French village on the Mediterranean.

## Ambler, Joseph Alfred, and others

Chemistry and analysis of the permitted coal-tar food dyes. 40p. (4p. bibl.) il. O (Dept. of Agri. bull. no. 1390) '26 Wash., D. C. Gov't Pr. Off.; Sup't of Doc. pap. 10c.

## Barron, Albert Milton, comp.

Foot ball rules; complete interpretation of 1926 official foot ball rules. 35p. diagrs. S '26 Phil., A. J. Reach Co. apply

## Benefield, Barry

Short turns. 339p. D [c. '13-'26] N. Y. Century \$2

Short stories by the author of "The Chicken-Wagon Family."

## Bennett, Alfred Gordon

The sea of dreams. 316p. front. D [c. '26] N. Y. Macaulay \$2

A romance of the atolls of the South Seas; published in England under the title, "The Sea of Sleep."

## Bergin, Alfred

Up to Jerusalem, or, At the fountains of our civilization; a travelog. 120p. il. O '25 Lindsborg, Kan. Bethany Bk. & Pr. Co. \$1

## Blanchard, Charles Eaton

Betterman II on the business of medicine. 250p. front. O '26 Youngstown, O. Medical Success Press, 36 N. Phelps St. b'xd. \$3

## Bleackley, Horace William

Ladies fair and frail. 336p. (13p. bibl.) il. O '26 N. Y. Dodd, Mead bds. \$3.50 Sketches of the demi-monde during the eighteenth century.

## Boody, Bertha M.

A psychological study of immigrant children at Ellis Island. 158p. (4p. bibl.) O (Mental measurement mon. ser. no. 3) '26 Balt. Williams & Wilkins \$4

## Bowen, Marjorie, pseud. [Mrs. Gabrielle Margaret Vere Campbell Long]

Mistress Nell Gwyn. 248p. front. (por.) D '26 N. Y. Appleton \$2

A novel founded upon the life of Charles II's favorite.

## Benner, Henry Dill

Starlight baseball. 12p. diagrs. F c. '25 N. Y. Author, Box 520, City Hall Sta. pap. \$1.25

## Braithwaite, William Stanley Beaumont

John Myers O'Hara and the Grecian influence. 15p. S '26 Portland, Me., Smith & Sale apply

## Briggs, Lyman James, and others

Electroculture. 35p. (2p. bibl.) il. O (Dept. of Agri. bull. no. 1379) '26 Wash., D. C. Gov't Pr. Off.; Sup't of Doc. pap. 10c.

**Boylan, William A., and Taylor, Albert**

Graded drill exercises in corrective English: oral and written; pupils' ed; bks 1-3; various p. D '25, '26 N. Y. Noble & Noble  
bk. 1. 50 c.; bk 2. 58 c.; bk 3. 65 c.  
Book one is for the fourth and fifth grades, book two for the sixth and seventh, and book three for the eighth and ninth.

**Broster, D. K.**

The flight of the heron. 388p. D '26 N. Y.  
Dodd, Mead \$2  
A story of the days of Prince Charlie.

**Brundage, Albert Harrison**

A manual of toxicology; 15th ed. enl. 444p.  
il. O '26 N. Y. Appleton \$5

**Bullen, Henry Ivers**

Nicholas, Jensen, printer of Venice. 10p.  
F '26. San Francisco. John Henry Nash,  
447 Sansome St. bds. \$30

**Bumpus, Thomas Francis**

The cathedrals and churches of Italy. 408p.  
il. (pt. col.) O '26 N. Y. Dodd, Mead \$7.50  
Detailed architectural and historical descriptions.

**Burdett, Osbert**

Critical essays. 169p. D ['26] N. Y. Holt  
\$2  
Essays on life and literature by the author of  
"The Beardsley Period."

**Calhoun, George M.**

The business life of ancient Athens. 185p.  
D [c. '26] Chic. Univ. of Chic. Press. \$2

**Calland, Annice**

Voodo [verse]. 64p. O c. N. Y., H. Vinal.  
bds. \$1.50

**Canfield, Dorothy [Mrs. Dorothea Frances Canfield Fisher]**

Her son's wife. 302p. D [c. '26] N. Y.  
Harcourt \$2  
Everything in Mary Bascomb's comfortable universe revolved about her, until her son brought home a wife.

**Casson, Stanley**

Macedonia, Thrace and Illyria; their relations to Greece from the earliest times down to the time of Philip son of Amyntas. 380p.  
il., maps O '26 N. Y. Oxford \$7

**Clark, J. M.**

Abbey of St. Gall as a centre of literature and art. 328p. (bibl) O '26 N. Y. Macmillan  
\$6

**Cooper, Courtney Ryley**

Oklahoma. 303p. D c. Bost. Little, Brown  
\$2  
A story of the opening of the Oklahoma territory to homesteaders, and of the romance of Mort Sturdevant, Pawnee Bill's right-hand man.

**Cromie, William James**

Pyramid building. 95p. il. S (Spalding "red cover" ser. of athletic handb'ks, no. 52R) '26 N. Y., Amer. Sports Pub. Co. apply

**Gauvin, Marshall J.**

Where is hell? in this world or another? 32p.  
S c. N. Y., P. Eckler Pub. Co. pap. 25 c.

**Crawford, F. Marion**

Ave Roma immortalis; studies from the Chronicles of Rome; new ed., rev. 623p. il., map D '26 N. Y., Macmillan \$2.50

**Crockett, W. S.**

Berwickshire and Roxburghshire. 210p. il., maps, diagrs. D (Cambridge County handb'k) '26 N. Y. Macmillan \$1.25

**Crooke, William**

Religion and folklore of northern India [new ed.] 472p. O '26 N. Y. Oxford \$7

**Cunningham, Brysson**

Port economics; an elementary study of port affairs. 143p. il., diagrs. O (Pitman's transport lib.) '26 N. Y. Pitman \$1.75

**D'Auvergne, Edmund B.**

The English castles. 290p. (bibl. footnotes) il. (pt. col.) O [n. d.] N. Y. Dodd, Mead  
\$6

A popular historical and architectural study of the most interesting castles of England.

**Davison, Charles**

Plane trigonometry for secondary schools; pt. 1. 326p. D '26 N. Y. Macmillan \$1.50

**Dewar, Douglas**

Birds of an Indian village; 2nd ed. 146p.  
il. (col. front.) D '25 N. Y. Oxford \$2

**Dobson, G. M. B.**

The uppermost regions of the earth's atmosphere. 22p. il. O '26 N. Y. Oxford 85 c.

**Dobson, G. M. B., and others**

Photographic photometry; a study of methods of measuring radiation by photographic means. 122p. il. D '26 N. Y. Oxford \$2.50

**Dorrance, Ethel Arnold Smith, and Dorrance, James French**

Run o' the range; a western story. 256p. D (Chelsea House popular copyrights) [c. '26] N. Y. Chelsea House 75 c.

**Eaton, Theodore H.**

Education and vocation: principles and problems of vocational education. 300p. O (B'ks. on educ.) '26 N. Y. Wiley \$2.50

**Eleanore, Sister M.**

Troubadours of Paradise. 298p. front. D c. N. Y., Appleton \$2  
Lives of the saints from an entirely new point of view.

**Emerson, Ralph Waldo**

Selections from the prose works of Ralph Waldo Emerson; ed. by Bliss Perry. 384p. (bibl.) S (Riverside college classics) [c. '26] Bost., Houghton \$1

**Hall, William H., and Twilley, Irving Lawrence**

Analytic chemistry, qualitative and quantitative; 3rd ed. 148p. il. S '26 Balt., People's Pr. Co., 118 S. Howard St. apply

**Hankins, Orville Gerber, and Ellis, N. R.**

Some results of soft-pork investigations. 70p.  
(bibl.) il. diagrs. O (Dep't of Agri. bull. no. 1407) '26 Wash., D. C., Gov't Pr. Off.; Sup't of Doc.  
pap. 15 c.

**Fausset, Hugh I'Anson**

Samuel Taylor Coleridge. 350p. il. O [n. d.] N. Y. Harcourt bds. \$3.50  
A biography by the author of "John Donne."

**Felkin, F. W.**

The craft of the poet; an outline of English verse composition. 70p. O ['26] N. Y. Holt \$1.50

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Verse and versus. 100p. il. D '25 Sarcoxie, Mo. Author fab. \$1

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The record of the author's lone-hand cruise across the Atlantic, from east to west, in his thirty-nine foot sailboat.

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The story of the marriage of Jane Thorndike, successful woman lawyer, to Tommy Kent, who loved her.

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A novel of the life of a family of Bushmen in Africa: how they lived, ate, and fought man and beast.

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Sylvia Brown escapes her wealthy family and goes to New York to discover what life and love are like; the author was for some time managing editor of *The Dial*.

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The author is professor of rhetoric and English literature in the University of Edinburgh.

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educ. no. 186) '25 N. Y., Teachers College, Columbia Univ. \$1.50; pap., \$1.25

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A history of Roumania; land, people, civilization; tr. from 2nd enl. ed. by Joseph McCabe. 296p. (3p. bibl.) map O [n. d.] N. Y. Dodd, Mead \$4

The author is professor at the University of Bucharest, associate professor at the Sorbonne, and member of the Roumanian academy.

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The author is assistant professor of history in Columbia University.

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**Le Bland, Mrs. Aubrey**

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The author conducts a department on business questions and income increasing ideas for women in The New York Evening World.

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The ordeal of Richard Feverel; introd. by David Lambeth. 536p. D (Modern readers' ser.) '26 N. Y. Macmillan 80 c.; \$1.25

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One volume contains "Paradise Lost," the other, miscellaneous poems, "Paradise Regained" and "Samson Agonistes"; both printed at the Nonesuch Press, London.

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The laburnum branch; poems. 112p. O [n. d.] N. Y., Harcourt bds. \$1.75  
The author has been known heretofore in America chiefly as the writer of historical novels, her last one being "Cloud Cuckoo Land."

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**1926 Federal income tax guides;** v. 2, no. 2, for fiduciaries. 20p. il. Q c. Stamford, Conn., J. J. Mitchell pap. \$1

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The author, who joined the British navy at the age of sixteen in 1875, tells a spirited tale of life on the sea at that time.

**Oyved, Moysheh**

Visions and jewels; an autobiography. 174p. front. (por.) D ['26] N. Y. Holt bds. \$2

The author was born a Russian peasant—he is now known far and wide as the proprietor of "Cameo Corner," an artistic little jewel shop in London.

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Splinters from a wooden head [verse]. 64p. S [c. '26] N. Y. Donald J. Flamm, 250 W. 54th St. bds. \$1

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The International Labor Organization; a study of labor and capital in co-operation; introd. by Henry M. Robinson. 368p. (5p. bibl.) D c. N. Y. Appleton \$3

The history of this organization, membership in which is carried with membership in the League of Nations.

**Piaget, Jean**

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An exciting and mysterious novel of the Parisian underworld.

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A profession of the social faith of a modern man.

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**Spalding, William Frederick**

The finance of foreign trade; a practical guide to the operations of banker and merchant. 190p. (3p. bibl.) O '26 N. Y. Pitman \$2.25

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A romance of the Indian jungle.

**Taber, Clarence Wilbur, and others**

The business of the household; 3rd ed., rev. 468p. (bibls.) il., diagrs. O (Lippincott's home manuals) [c. '18-'26] Phil. Lippincott \$3

**Tagore, Robindranath**

Red oleanders; a drama in one act. 181p. D '26 N. Y. Macmillan \$2

**Toldt, Carl and Rosa, Alois Dalla**

An atlas of human anatomy; 2 v., rev., ed. by Eden Paul. 400p.; 532p. il. O '26 N. Y. Macmillan \$10

**Toller, Ernst**

Brokenbow; a tragedy; tr. by Vera Mendel; il. by Georg Gross. 50p. O '26 [N. Y. Chaucer Head] bds. \$2.25

A Nonesuch Press publication.

**Townshend, Richard Baxter**

Last memories of a tenderfoot. 281p. il. O '26 N. Y. Dodd, Mead \$3.50

The last "Tenderfoot" book comprises the late R. B. Townshend's letters and memoirs together with further unpublished sketches of life in Colorado in 1870.

**Treynor, Albert M.**

The long patrol. 306p. D '26 c. '24, '26 N. Y. Dodd, Mead \$2  
A mystery of the Canadian Northwest.

**Underwood, Horace Horton**

Modern education in Korea. 351p. (2p. bibl.) il., maps, diagrs. O c. N. Y. Author, 156 5th Ave.

The author is professor of psychology in the Chosen Christian College, Seoul, Korea.

**Van Dyke, Henry**

The gospel for an age of doubt; 6th ed., rev. 347p. D '26 N. Y. Macmillan \$1.75

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 Textbook of theosophy, A. Leadbeater, C. W. \$1; 75c. *Theosophical Press*  
 Texts and studies; v. 9, no. 2. Robinson, J. A. \$16 *Macmillan*  
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 B. \$2.50 *Stokes*  
 Wonder tales of old Tyrol. Henderson, B.  
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 Zoroastrian doctrine of a future life, The.  
 Pavry, J. \$2.50 *Columbia Univ. Press*

## Old and Rare Books



Edited by Frederick M. Hopkins

SIR E. DENISON ROSS has contributed an interesting introduction to a limited edition of Sir Edwin Arnold's "Light of Asia," which John Lane has in preparation. The new edition has been illustrated in color by Hamzeh Carr, a Mohammedan artist resident in Cairo.

"THE Love Letters of William Pitt: First Lord Chatham," edited by Ethel Ashton Edwards, will be published by Chapman and Hall during the autumn. The letters which are preserved among the Chatham MSS. in the Record Office, London, have never been printed before.

IT has been carefully estimated that upwards of 100,000 copies of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" were issued in the decade after its first appearance. And yet copies of these early editions are extremely scarce, due to the fact that they were read literally to tatters.

ERNEST BENN, LIMITED, has published William Meinhold's "Sodonia the Sorceress," in Lady Wilde's translation, illustrated by Thomas Lowinsky, in a limited edition of 225 copies. The typography is by Stanley Morrison, the binding full vellum, the case of black silk, making the edition one of distinction. The edition will soon be exhausted.

CHAPMAN AND HALL, the original publishers of "Pickwick" are commemorating the centenary of the travels of the Pickwick Club—it was in 1827 that the Pickwickians set forth on their journey—by an illustrated record entitled "Mr. Pickwick's Pilgrimages," by Walter Dexter. The book which will be ready in the autumn, describes the typography of the tour.

THE first instalment of an enormous piece of Napoleonic research will be issued by the Oxford University Press next month in a volume entitled "The Armies of the First French Republic: The Armée du Nord," by the late Colonel R. W. Phipps. The author devoted much of his life to a study of Napoleonic history. This first volume, which has been prepared for press by his son, forms part of a preliminary study of the eleven armies of the Republic with which Napoleon moulded his Empire.

A CABLE from London reports that Charles Dickens's first manuscript, "Strategems of Rozanza," dictated when he was sixteen years of age to his mother, has been returned to England. The author signed himself C. J. H. Dickens, a reminder of his full name, Charles John Huffham Dickens, which he changed early in his career. The plot of the play is concerned with the loves and adventures of a

cosmopolitan group in a Venetian inn. The existence of the manuscript was unknown until about a year ago. It once belonged to Georgiana Hogarth, Dickens's sister-in-law. After passing into other hands it became the property of a California collector, who apparently has sold it.

THE last letter written by Charles Dickens, dated "Gad's Hill Place, June 8, 1870," was addressed to John M. Makeham, who had complained that the novelist was thought to have been guilty of irreverence in some of his books. Dickens wrote in reply: "It would be quite inconceivable to me but for your letter that any reasonable reader could possibly attach a scriptural reference to a passage in a book of mine, I am truly shocked to find that any reader can make the mistake. I have always striven in my writings to express veneration for the life and lessons of Our Saviour, because I feel it and because I rewrote that history for my children—every one of whom knew it from having it repeated to them long before they could read, and almost as soon as they could speak." This last letter of such peculiar literary and personal interest brought only £40 at Sotheby's in London at a recent sale.

THE Hispanic Society of America has published the "Diary of Washington Irving—Spain, 1828-1829," edited by Clara Louisa Penny. This diary of two years of Irving's life was written when he was about forty, already the author of "The Knickerbocker History of New York" and "The Sketch Book," and something of a celebrity on both sides of the Atlantic. Owing to misfortunes in business, he had applied to Alexander Everett, the American minister to Spain for a post at the legation and in February, 1826, received an appointment with nominal duties. He soon embarked on his "Life of Columbus" and began collecting material for a history of the conquest of Granada. The diary gives an account of his travels in the southern part of Spain, where he went in search of material for his books. Perhaps the most interesting pages in the diary is the detailed account of a visit to Palos

to see the descendants of the partners of Columbus, the Pinzons. The Hispanic Society, whose imprint this volume bears, was organized in 1904 for the purpose of advancing the study of the Spanish and Portuguese languages, literature and history, especially in its relation to America.

PROFESSOR GALLO of the University of Rome, an authority on ancient Latin manuscripts, has been at work in the archives of the Abbey of Montecassino in Southern Italy. Here, among a collection of 40,000 documents, nearly all of them of great age, he has discovered some which are said to contain the earliest known examples of Italian words and phrases. One throws light on the early struggles of the language to escape from its classical bonds, and bears the date of 819. It came originally from S. Martino di Volturno. The oldest of these documents is a parchment from Taranto, dated 809. But there are no words of the vulgar tongue in it. The two earliest manuscripts previously brought to light which showed the primitive Italian, were from Campania, and bore the dates of 963 and 964. Linguists will feel sure that if among the austere walls of a notary's study, for this oldest of Italian writing is a legal document, words and phrases of the new language were able to find their way, there is little doubt but that the language was beginning to be used by the common people. This discovery makes Italian an old language, long antedating Dante.

TWENTY typical examples of the variety and diversity of the Elizabethan drama have been chosen by Professor Felix E. Schelling of the University of Pennsylvania to make up the contents of his volume entitled "Typical Elizabethan Plays by Contemporaries and Immediate Successors of Shakespeare." They are reprinted and edited from the early editions, and they include representative examples of the work of John Llyl, Thomas Kyd, Robert Greene, Christopher Marlowe, Thomas Dekker, Thomas Heywood, Ben Jonson, Beaumont and Fletcher, John Webster, Philip Massinger, and John Ford.

From the *Sphere*

*Following the recent sale of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," in the rare first edition, for £6,800, the English auctioneers have been flooded with all sorts of copies of all sorts of editions*

**I**N commenting on the recent sale of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," then regarded as the first issue of the first edition, William Roberts, in his department of "Notes on Sales" in the London *Times Literary Supplement*, says: "The astonishing 'record' of £6,800 paid by Quaritch at Sotheby's for R. C. Warner's fine and perfect copy of the first edition of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress," 1678, originally published at eighteenpence, will leave the bewildered spectator wondering what other copy will outdistance this, and establish a new 'record'; it comes at no great distance from the £8,600 paid at the Burdett-Coutts sale in 1922 for the First Folio Shakespeare, 1623, which had in 1864 established a record at 682 guineas. It was thought in 1812 that the limit was reached when the Marquis of Blandford paid £2,260 for the Duke of Roxburghe's copy of the Valdarfer Boccaccio, 1471, a magnificent specimen of early typography—which the 'Pilgrim's Progress' is not; but that 'record' altho its claim was for generations unchallenged, has long since, and frequently, been outdistanced." Altho it was discovered later that this copy of "Pilgrim's Progress" was not a first issue of the first edition, it does not change the fact that there were two buyers who were willing to pay \$34,000, or near that figure, for it. This record will figure as an extraordinary new record.

**FOLLOWING** on the sale of any noteworthy object of interest at an abnormal price, the recent sale of the first edition of Bunyan's "Pilgrim's Progress" for £6,800 has caused the auctioneers to be "snowed under" with copies of the work, for at least four hundred have been handed in over the counter and nearly, if not quite, as many have been sent by post, while there have been thousands of letters describing other copies of Bunyan's great work. These copies have been of all ages, sizes, and conditions. They have varied from vest-pocket editions, three inches by two inches, to bulky volumes weighing three or more pounds.

### Auction Calendar

**October 5th and 6th.** Incunables, property of Kurt Wolff, Munich. (Items 824.) Joseph Baer & Co., Hochstrasse, 6, Frankfurt a.M., Germany.

### Catalogs Received

**Books relating to musical instruments, their history, development and technique, including a small collection of early tutors.** (No. 64.) Harold Reeves, 210 Shaftesbury Ave., London, W. C. 2, London, England.

**Works of occult, psychology, astrology, Christian Science and kindred subjects at greatly reduced prices.** (No. 180.) Shepard Book Co., 408 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah.

**Autograph letters, documents and manuscripts.** (No. 4561; Items 194.) John Heise, 410 Onondaga Bank Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y.

**Lincoliniana.** (96 items, including 16 scarce broadsides.) Morris H. Briggs, 5113 Kimbark Ave., Chicago, Ill.

**Scarce books.** (No. 62; Items 86.) E. W. Johnson, 362 West 123rd St., New York City.

Issued Every Saturday

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 Fuller. Alley Cat's Kitten.

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 Legends of the Jews. 4 vols. Half lea.  
 Mark Twain. \$20,000 Legacy. Harper's Library  
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 Hardy. A Pair of Blue Eyes. Harper's Green  
 cloth.

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 SAS CITY, Mo.  
 Romans. Vol. II. Biblical Illustrator. Revell  
 ed.  
 Crucified and the Risen Bible.  
 Complete Set. American Church History. 13  
 vols.  
 Studies on the New Testament; Defense of the  
 Christian Faith; First Epistles to the Corin-  
 thians. F. Godet.  
 The Book of Enoch. Author unknown.

AMERICAN LIB. SERVICE, 500 FIFTH AVE., N. Y.  
 Uncle Tom's Almanac.  
 Slave Bill of Sale or Photo of Same.  
 American History in Pictures. 1913.  
 Buckingham's Slave States Newspapers.  
 Books on Mississippi Steamboats of Period.

W. H. ANDRE, 604 KITTREDGE BLDG., DENVER  
 American History and Pictures. Pub. Illustrated  
 Supplement Co., New York City.

GUSTAVE ANJOU, WEST NEW BRIGHTON, N. Y.  
 History of Powys Fadog. 6 vols.  
 Fauquier Co. Va. Bulletin. Vol I.  
 Landmarks of Prince William Co., Va. 2 vols.  
 Fairfax Harrison.  
 Am. Fam. Antiquity. Albert Welles. Vol. II.  
 Fish.  
 Altdtdeutsches Wörterbuch. O. Schade. Halle  
 Part 4.  
 Fiske Genealogy. Col. Pierce.  
 Americana. 1917-date.  
 Old Northwest Geneal. Qua. V. i. VI.  
 Fred. Trevor Hill. The Case and Exception;  
 The Minority; The Web; The 13th Juror.  
 Colonial Families. Mackenzie. Vol. II.  
 Maine Hist. & Geneal. Recorder. VI. pts. iv-xii;  
 VII, pts. 1-12; VIII.  
 Essex Antiquarian. Qua. from vol. 14 to date.  
 Mayflower Descendants. Qua. Vol. VI. 18 to  
 date.  
 New York Genealo & Bio. Record from vol. 53  
 to date.  
 Ulster Co., N. Y., Probate records. 2 vols.  
 Encycl. of Pa. Bio. Jordan. IV, V, VI, VII,  
 IX, XI.  
 Penn. Magazine. XXI, XXII, XXIII, XXIV,  
 XXV, XXVI.  
 Baltimore, History of, Lewis Co. 1912. Small  
 ed. Vol. 1.  
 Hist. of Missouri. Conard. Vol. 1.  
 Cleveland, O., Pioneer History. McBride. Vol. 2.  
 Lower Norfolk Co., Va., Antiquary. I, II.  
 Crozier's Books on Virginia.  
 Chronyk van Zeeland. Smallegance. Middelburg.  
 1696.  
 Fragmens Geneal. par Dumont. Gand. 1862. 2  
 vols.  
 Archives de France. Bordier. Paris, 1860.  
 Formularbuch u. Notoriatsrecht. Jastrow. Ber-  
 lin, 1903.  
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ASSOCIATED STUDENTS STORE, UNIV. OF CAL., BERKELEY, CALIF.

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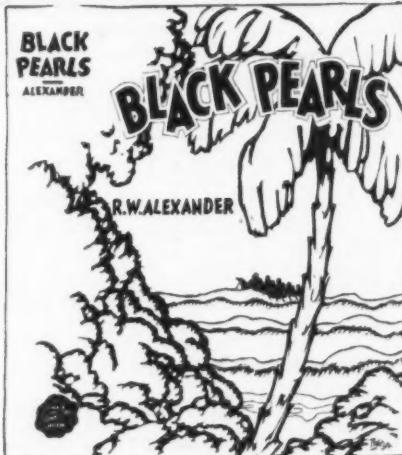
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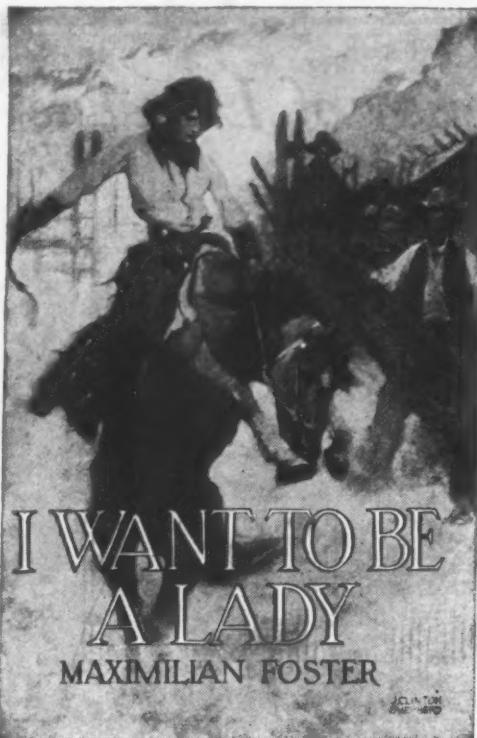
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